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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 06104 060706Z

17
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

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R 051424Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO AMCONSULATE MUNICH
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1390

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS YO
SUBJECT: CHANGES IN SERBIAN LAW ON HIGHER EDUCATION

REF : MUNICH 1836

1. FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF BELGRADE 5817 OF NOV 19 ARE REPEATED FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

2. "TWO CHANGES IN LAW ON HIGHER EDUCATION WERE APPROVED NOV 11 BY TWO COMMITTEES OFSERBIAN ASSEMBLY, ACCORDING TO NOV 12 POLITIKA. THE FIRST REQUIRES ASSEMBLY CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF HALF MAMBERSHIP OF ACULTY COUNCILS. THESE MEMBERS WERE FORMERLY APPOINTED DIRECTLY BY NON-UNIVERSITY ORGANIZATIONS, WHICH THEY REPRESENT. ORGANIZATIONS WILL NOW ONLY NOMINATE THEIR REPRESENTATIVES FOR ASSEMBLY CONFIRMATION. OTHER HALF OF FACULTY COUNCILS WILL STILL CONSIST OF REPRESENTATIVES OF TEACHING STAFFS, STUDENTS, AND OTHER EMPLOYEES OF ACULTY."

3. "SECOND CHANGE PERMITS ASSEMBLY, IF IT FINDS SERIOUS HARM TO SOCIAL INTERESTS FROM THEIR ACTIVITIES, TO SUSPEND RESPONSIBLE INSTRUCTORS FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD. THESE SUSPENDED PERSONNEL WOULD BE PERMITTED TO CONTINUE DRAWING THEIR SALARIES UNTIL THEY EITHER FIND A NEW JOB OR QUALIFY FOR RETIREMENT, REPORTED
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 06104 060706Z

POLITIKA."

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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4. "COMMENT: PRIMARY SIGNIFICANCE OF CHANGES IS MOVE TO MODIFY SELF-MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AS PREVIOUSLY PRACTICED AT BELGRADE UNIVERSITY AND CONSSEQUENT INDICATION OF ASSEMBLY LACK OF FAITH IN PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENTS. THE CHANGES SO FAR SEEM TO BE AIMED AT FUTURE CASES SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE BELGRADE EIGHT RATHER THAN AT THE EIGHT THEMSELVES, ALTHOUGH TEHEORETICALLY NEW PROVISIONS COULD BE APPLIED TO THE EIGHT DISSIDENT PROFESSORS WERE THEY TO ENGAGE IN FUTURE ACTIVITIES WHICH AUTHORITIES FIND TROUBLESOME."

5. LAW IS NOT YET, TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, APPROVED BY FULL ASSEMBLY.

6. WE ASSUME ABOVE INFORMATION IS INTENDED FOR BACGROUND USE ONLY. WE WOULD NOT THINK IT CONSTRUCTIVE TO US THIS MATERIAL FOR BROADCAST.
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